



Climate change: Should family physicians and family medicine organizations pay attention?

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Abstract:

In 2007, Val Rachlis, then President of the Ontario College of Family Physicians, challenged organization members in his biweekly communication to consider climate change as a health issue that deserved the attention of Canadian family physicians. Responses to his essay included a report on the health effects of climate change and a brochure on green solutions in the doctor's office. In this commentary, we will attempt to reinforce this challenge to Canadian family physicians. We will describe the health effects of climate change, both within Canada and internationally, and discuss the various roles that family physicians might need to consider playing in the years ahead.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3653645>

Resource Description

Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature: ☒

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Arctic

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified, Non-United States

Non-United States: Non-U.S. North America

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified